

JAMES SCHWELL
OCT
7862
9 DECEMBER 63

SECRET

BOOK MESSAGE IS BELOW

ROUTINE

87787

BALIN LONG AMMA ABDI BERN MADH ANKA ALLI BONN PARI
MUNI BAGH KHAR LISB COPE NASO BEIR LEOP MEXI FROB NEWD
DAMA RABA NOBI HAGU VIEN KAHU TPLI SAGO HEID ATIR JIDD
TNIS CYRU TEHE CMHR OSLO CAIR MOGA PACY CNVA ROMS PHAN

POLBAND

NEAR EAST - AFRICA BRIEF

(INFOR~~RELEASABLE TO LIAISON. NO NOFORN IN THIS MESSAGE)~~

1. SYRIA: THE POWER STRUGGLE WITHIN THE SYRIAN REGIME APPEARS TO BE RESOLVING IN FAVOR OF THE MODERATE FACTION LED BY ~~POEMIER HAFIZ~~.

REPORTS BY HAFIZ, A MILITARY MEMBER OF THE BAATH PARTY, TO ASSOCIATE THE REGIME WITH NON-BAATHI POLITICAL ELEMENTS HAVE GAINED MOMENTUM, AND BAATHIST EXTREMISTS LED BY VICE PREMIER UMRAN WHO OPPOSE THIS MOVE ARE BEING ECLIPSED. GENERAL UMRAN STILL OCCUPIES HIS GOVERNMENTAL POST, HOWEVER, AND DESPERATE COUNTERACTION BY HIM AND HIS SUPPORTERS IN THE ARMY AND THE BAATH DOMINATED NATIONAL GUARD CANNOT BE COMPLETELY DISCOUNTED.

THERE IS ALSO A POSSIBILITY THAT PRO-NASSIR GROUPS WILL TRY TO EXPLOIT THE DIVISION WITHIN THE REGIME BY ATTEMPTING TO SEIZE POWER.

(CONT)

END OF MESSAGE

SECRET

J.C. GRAHAM

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J. B. CASTUS

15992